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INTERIM COMMITTEE

Seventh Session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FIFTIETH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Thursday, 23 January 1958, at 10.55 a.m.

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Acting Chairman:	Mr. PROTITCH	Under-Secretary for Political and Security Council Affairs
Chairman:	Mr. MONTERO de VARGAS	Paraguay

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (A/AC.18/Agenda/50)

The ACTING CHAIRMAN, in the absence of the former Chairman, Mr. Thorsing, opened the meeting on behalf of the Secretary-General.

The agenda was adopted.

ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN

Mr. URQUIA (El Salvador) nominated Mr. Montero de Vargas (Paraguay) as Chairman.

Mr. MATSUDAIRA (Japan) supported the nomination.

Mr. Montero de Vargas (Paraguay) was elected Chairman by acclamation.

The CHAIRMAN thanked the Committee for the honour they had done his country in electing him Chairman.

ELECTION OF THE VICE-CHAIRMAN AND RAPPORTEUR

Mr. SHAHI (Pakistan) nominated Mr. Alemayehou (Ethiopia) as Vice-Chairman.

Mr. RITCHIE (Canada) supported the nomination.

Mr. Alemayehou (Ethiopia) was elected Vice-Chairman by acclamation.

Mr. ALEMAYEHOU (Ethiopia) thanked the Committee for the honour they had done his country in electing him Vice-Chairman.

Mr. MATSCH (Austria) nominated Mr. Nisot (Belgium) as Rapporteur.

Mr. MILLER (New Zealand) supported the nomination.

Mr. Nisot (Belgium) was elected Rapporteur by acclamation.

Mr. NISOT (Belgium) thanked the Committee for the honour they had done his country in electing him Rapporteur.

Mr. LODGE (United States of America) congratulated the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Rapporteur on their election. The United States had a special interest in the Interim Committee as General Marshall, then Secretary of State, had taken a leading part in its establishment. The Committee's purpose was to assist the General Assembly to discharge its responsibilities with respect to international peace and security. The Committee had done useful work. In particular, it had recommended that the veto should not be applied

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(Mr. Lodge, United States)

in the Security Council in matters relating to the pacific settlement of disputes and in other questions. The United States shared that view and hoped that all the permanent members of the Security Council, particularly the Soviet Union, would act favourably on the Committee's recommendation. In that connexion the President of the United States, in a recent letter to the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, had specifically referred to the desirability of abandoning the veto with respect to those particular categories of questions. Had the Committee's recommendation been acted upon at the time it had been made, the Security Council would have had a much more useful career in promoting peace than it had had as a result of the abuse of the veto by certain members.

In view of the effective work the Committee had done in the past, members should consider whether it could not play an important role in the future. In that connexion, the absence of the Soviet Union delegation was regrettable.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that, as the Committee had completed consideration of the items on its agenda, it should adjourn sine die.

It was so agreed.

The meeting rose at 11.20 a.m.